

THE GREASBROUGH
Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT



FOR THE YEAR 1910,

— BY —

JNO. F. CHEESEWRIGHT

(M.R.C.S., England, &c.),

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



Rotherham :

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—
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To the Chairman and Members of the Greasbrough Urban District Council.



GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of placing before you my Annual Report on the Health and the Sanitary Condition and Requirements of the Urban District of Greasbrough for the year 1910.

The most important part of your work being the preservation of the health of the community entrusted to your care, I shall, in the first place, direct your attention to the Vital Statistics required by the Local Government Board.

The Death Rate.

In the Death-rate for 1910 there is a very satisfactory diminution, both as compared with that of the preceding year, and with the average for the years 1901 to 1909, inclusive.

During these years the Death-rate has ranged from 11·9 per 1000 in 1906 to 17 per 1000 in 1902, 1905, and in 1909.

For the year just ended (1910) it is one of the lowest recorded in the series, viz., 12·6 per 1000.

This must be satisfactory to you so far as the total Death-rate is concerned, and I venture to think you will not find it less satisfactory on a closer scrutiny.

Infantile Mortality.

Much attention has been very properly directed in recent years to the mortality among infants, and in Greasbrough the rate for children under one year of age has been as high as 188·9 per 1000 births. This was in 1902. The average for the years 1901 to 1909 was 129·3, and in 1909 it was 113·4. For 1910 it was 68·9, or an actual mortality among infants under one year of Six (6) out of 87 births registered. And when we notice that in two cases the certified cause of death was premature birth I think we may congratulate ourselves on our low "Infantile Mortality."

In view of the undoubted diminution in the Birth-rate it is satisfactory to know that of the infants actually born such a goodly proportion survive the ordeal of the first year of life.

In this connection I must confess that I do not feel that I can urge you either to adopt the "Early Notification of Births Act," or to spend money on the appointment of a Health Visitor at present.

An examination of Table IV will show that really a small proportion of the deaths which have occurred in the District are due to causes over which this Council has much, if any, control. Scarlet Fever claims one; Puerperal Fever one; Enteritis and Diarrhœa each one. These constitute the Death Roll from what are generally called "preventable diseases."

The Death-rate from Measles and Diphtheria is nil.

On the other hand, malignant disease (Cancer, &c.) has caused four deaths; Heart Disease three; Accidents four, and Premature Birth two, all causes of death, which, however regrettable, can hardly be controlled by the Sanitary Authority of any District.

Again, 12 of the 41 deaths are of persons over 65 years of age.

There have been no deaths from Consumption, and only two from Tuberculous Disease of any kind.

I refer to these points in some detail, because the most important work of any Local Authority in any district is to combat the causes of disease and death among the community.

And though I point to these figures with satisfaction it is not to suggest, in flattery to ourselves, that the satisfactory condition of things indicated is entirely the result of the efforts of this Council or of your Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector; and if I thought it were so I should still warn you against the feeling that you may now rest and be contented. The

fact, I believe, is that this district is naturally a healthy one, and the dangers to health, which have arisen with the growth of the community in the past, when Sanitary Science was still young, are being gradually removed from among you; but there is still much to be done, which, in a district such as yours, can only be done gradually.

There are still dwelling houses which I hope to see replaced by more modern buildings; and though the substitution of a Water Carriage System for the many Middens and Earth Closets still existing, cannot be accomplished at once, it is an end to be kept in view. It is also most important that while these middens and closets exist they should be kept in proper condition and regularly emptied.

The Birth Rate.

Turning from the Death-rate to the Birth-rate it is not easy at present to say whether or no it is satisfactory.

It is for 1910, 27 per 1000. This compared with 30·3 in 1909 and 32·4, the average for the years 1901 to 1909 shows a decrease.

The Birth-rate, however, is a thing which you as a Sanitary Authority have no direct control over.

When the infants arrive it is your duty to protect them from many of the dangers by which they are beset, and in this respect the Infantile Mortality referred to is satisfactory.

But we must remember in looking at the Birth-rate that Greasbrough is not a centre towards which population is attracted by any special industry or source of employment for working men and their families. There is, I believe, rather less employment in the district now than formerly, and not from any preventable cause, but from the operation of natural causes.

There are only a few additional houses built in the course of a year, and we cannot tell in what numbers young married people are moving out of the district, and being replaced by those, who, in the course of nature, cannot possibly improve the Birth-rate. This is one of the matters on which the forthcoming Census may be expected to throw some light.

Infectious Diseases.

There has been nothing which can be described as a serious outbreak of any infectious disease in the district during 1910, but at intervals throughout the whole of the year there have been notified 35 cases of Scarlet Fever. Though only one death resulted, the occurrence of this number of cases, of one of the diseases which we are seriously concerned in preventing or checking, is far from satisfactory. Yet the cases had mostly no apparent connection with each other or with any common source of infection within your district, occurring as they did in almost every part of the Greasbrough area,

Every enquiry was made as to Milk Supply, and any possible source of infection, every effort was made to isolate each case, and plain instructions were given to the families affected; disinfectants were freely supplied, and disinfection of houses attended to by the Sanitary Inspector, and 28 of the 35 cases notified were removed to the Isolation Hospital at Wath; all clothing, &c., being thoroughly disinfected.

Of *Diphtheria* five cases were notified. There were no fatal cases; indeed, so mild were most of them—in several cases the children were apparently convalescent before the notifications were received—that it might seem to you as though this serious disease had lost its ancient terrors.

This, of course, is not so, and our efforts must still be directed to prevent a serious outbreak of the disease in its characteristic and dangerous form.

There has only been one case of Enteric Fever (Typhoid) notified.

There were two cases of Puerperal Fever notified—one ending fatally. Both occurred in the practices of Registered Midwives, both of whom were suspended until their return to their duties was sanctioned by the County Medical Officer, after they and all their clothing and appliances had been thoroughly disinfected.

There have been no further cases.

I have received from the Parish Medical Officer two notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption). This is only important as a step in the direction of compulsory notification of all cases, and is really no guide to an estimate of the prevalence of the disease, which, judged by the Death-rate, is not great.

The Dairies and Cowsheds in the district are in a more satisfactory condition than a few years ago. The ventilation and lighting have been improved where necessary, and the owners have been duly impressed with the importance of attending to the cleanliness of every person and thing associated with the production, storing and distribution of milk and dairy produce.

The Factories and Workshops in your district have been conducted in accordance with the regulations, and I have not had occasion to take any action.

I have frequently visited the parish during the year in connection with sanitary work, and made several special investigations in connection with the drainage on several farms.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

Births Registered	...	...	...	87
Birth-rate	...	..	...	27 per 1000

Deaths.

Registered in the District	...	...	38
Deaths occurring in Institutions out- side the District	...	...	3
Death-rate	...	...	12·6 per 1000

Infantile Mortality.

Six Deaths registered were of children under 1 year of age, which means a Death-rate of 68·9 per 1000 births.

Causes of Death.

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ..	...	...	...	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Disease		...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	4
Heart Disease ..		...	...	3
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...		...	2

Notification of Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever	...	35	Removed to Hospital...	28
Diphtheria	...	5	„ „ ..	1
Erysipelas	..	3	„ „ ..	0
Enteric Fever	...	1	„ „ ...	0
Puerperal Fever.	.	2	„ „ ...	0

I would suggest that the Council continue

- (1) The gradual substitution of W.C.'s in place of Middens.
- (2) The Asphaltting and efficient Draining of all back yards.

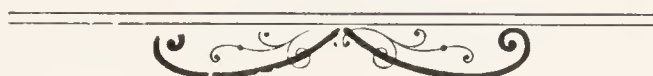
Appended are the several Tables referred to (Tables I., III., IV. and V.), and the Sanitary Inspector's Report of the work done in his department, all of which I commend to your consideration.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JNO. F. CHEESEWRIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.



SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The District has been regularly inspected; as a result, many nuisances have been removed, and a number of open Ashmiddens covered over and the bottoms properly constructed; also a number of old rubble drains taken up and proper sanitary drains constructed with traps, and ventilated in chambers and outlet shafts.

The particulars of the year's work are appended in tabular form.

	Jan., Feb., March	Apl.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.
Drains Re-constructed	5	8	6	3	2	3	1	0	0	1	29
Visits to Drains ...	7	10	4	2	6	6	1	0	0	4	40
Infectious Diseases...	22	1	2	3	7	2	2	4	2	1	46
Visits and Fumigated	2	0	8	4	15	4	5	3	0	4	45
Puerperal Fever ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Visits and Fumigated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	0	7
General Inspection...	13	13	12	13	13	10	13	13	13	13	126
Formal Notices ..	4	4	3	2	1	1	6	3	8	0	32
Legal Notices ...	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	4	0	2	11

Legal Notices not complied with—5 Closets, 1 drain, divide into two owners.

Dairies and Cowsheds. These places are regularly inspected, and offer nothing much for complaint, as the owners are in a position to turn out the cattle for a part of most days.

Slaughter-houses. There is only one in the District, and this is kept in a very cleanly condition, and to the General Orders. There is no cause for complaint.

Four W.C.'s and eight Privies have been erected during the year 1910 in accordance with plans approved by the Council.

P. GEO. WILKINSON.



TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910
and previous years.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths Registered in the District				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-Residents registered in Public Insti- tutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents regi- stered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Net Deaths at all Ages belongi'g to the District.	
		No.	Rate.	Under 1 year of age.		At all Ages.					No.	Rate.
				No.	Rate per 1000 Births registered.	No.	Rate.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1901	3131	100	31.3	15	150	45	14					
1902	3168	127	40	24	188.9	54	17					
1903	3168	104	32.8	15	144.2	45	14.2					
1904	3168	90	28.4	12	133.3	39	12.3					
1905	3187	102	32	16	151.9	55	17.2					
1906	3187	103	32.9	7	67.9	38	11.9					
1907	3170	94	29.6	10	106.3	40	12.6					
1908	3187	110	34.5	10	90.9	43	13.4					
1909	3200	97	30.3	11	113.4	50	14					
Averages for years 1901-1909.	3174	103	32.4	13.3	129.3	45.4	14.4					
1910	3222	87	27	6	68.9	38	11.7			3	41	12.6

At Census of 1901—

Area of District in acres }
(exclusive of area } 2270.
covered by water).

Total population at all ages, 3131.
Number of inhabited houses, 652.
Average number of persons per house, 4.8.

TABLE III.
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1910.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.					NUMBER OF CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL FROM EACH LOCALITY.							
	At Ages— Years.					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65								
Small Pox	At all Ages												
Cholera													
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...	5	3	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Erysipelas	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	35	8	25	2	..	..	..	6	20	2	..	..	28
Typhus Fever	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever.....		..	..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing Fever.													
Continued Fever													
Puerperal Fever.....	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague													
Totals	46	11	27	4	2	..	..	7	20	2	..	..	29

Isolation Hospital—Name and Situation—Wath and North Rotherham Joint Infectious Hospital.
Total available Beds, 36. Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated, 3.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at Death, during Year 1910.

Causes of Death. 1	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to localities whether occurring in or beyond the District.							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District. 16
	All Ages. 2	Under 1 year. 3	1 and under 5. 4	5 and under 15 5	15 and under 25 6	25 and under 65 7	65 and upwards 8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Small Pox.....															
Measles															
Scarlet Fever	1	..	..	1	..	..	..					
Whooping Cough.....															
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)...															
Croup.....															
Fever { Typhus															
Enteric.....															
Other continued..															
Epidemic Influenza															
Cholera															
Plague															
Diarrhœa	1	1	..	..	..	..	..			
Enteritis	1	1	..	..	..	..	..			
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	1	..								
Erysipelas.....															
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)															
Other Tuberculous Disea's	2	..	1	..	..	1	..								
Cancer, malignant disease	4	..	..	..	1	3	..								
Bronchitis.....	4	1	1	1	..	..	1								
Pneumonia	1	..	1	..	..	..	..				
Pleurisy.....															
Other diseases of Respi- ratory Organs.....															
Alcoholism)															
Cirrhosis of Liver)															
Venereal Diseases															
Premature Birth.....	2	2	..	..	..	..	..			
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	2	..	..	..	..	2	..								
Heart Diseases.....	3	..	..	..	..	1	2								
Accidents	4	..	1	..	..	2	1								
Suicides.....															
All other causes	15	1	..	..	..	6	8								
All causes...	41	6	4	2	1	16	12								

Table V.—Infantile Mortality during the Year 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year.
ALL CAUSES	(Certified Uncertified	2	...	...	1	3	..	1	...	...	...	...	2	..	...	...	...	6
I.—Common Infecti's Diseases :																		
Small Pox																		
Chicken Pox																		
Measles																		
Scarlet Fever																		
Diphtheria: Croup.....																		
Whooping Cough.....																		
II.—Diarrhœal Diseases :																		
Diarrhœa, all forms													1					1
Enteritis, Muco enteritis, Gastro-enteritis																		
Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh																		
III.—Wasting Diseases :																		
Premature Birth		2	...	...	...	2												2
Congenital Defects																		
Injury at Birth																		
Want of Breast Milk, Starvation Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...																		
IV.—Tuberculous Diseases :																		
Tuberculous Meningitis																		
Tuberculous Peritonitis																		
Tabes Mesenterica																		
Other Tuberculous Diseases																		
V.—Other Causes :																		
Erysipelas																		
Syphilis																		
Rickets																		
Meningitis.....																		
Convulsions					1	1	...	1										2
Bronchitis																		
Laryngitis.....																		
Pneumonia													1					1
Suffocation, over-lying																		
Other Causes.....																		
		2	...	...	1	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	6

Population estimated to middle of 1910 3222.

Births in the Year—Legitimate, 83 ; Illegitimate, 4.

Deaths in the year—Legitimate Infants, 6 ; Illegitimate Infants, 0.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 38.

THE GREASBROUGH
Urban District Council.

“Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.”

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Greasbrough Urban District Council.



“The Factory and Workshop Act, 1901.”



SIR,

The requirements of this Act have been satisfactorily carried out in the district during the past year.

There are at present 5 Factories and 11 Workshops in the district, that is one less than last year.

The premises have been inspected at intervals, and I am satisfied that there is no nuisance of any kind in connection with them, and the work is carried on under the conditions laid down by the Act of 1901.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

JNO. F. CHEESEWRIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

